SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 826 By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Peggy Howell on being named Fairview-Marguerite Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Howell of Fairview-Marguerite Elementary School is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Howell has recently been selected Teacher of the Year at her school, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, as stated by Director of Schools Dr. Dale Lynch, "To be recognized as building level Teacher of the Year by one's colleagues is one of the most prestigious honors one can receive"; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Howell, along with all school-wide Teachers of the Year, will be considered for further recognition on a system-wide basis in three categories: prekindergarten through grade four, grades five through eight, and grades nine through twelve; those winners will then be nominated for district honors; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Howell places great emphasis on education in her personal life as well as in her professional work, having earned a Bachelor of Science in Education with a major in Special Education and a concentration in Speech Pathology and having completed an additional thirty hours of graduate coursework; and

WHEREAS, she has served with acumen and alacrity as an educator for fourteen years and is currently a Speech and Language Therapist at Fairview-Marguerite Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Howell is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential; her students and their families consider themselves tremendously blessed by their association with her; and

WHEREAS, a true leader in her profession, she hosts and mentors aspiring young students who are interested in speech and language therapy; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Howell is an active and invaluable member of her community and her profession; she has donated her time and talents as a Delegate to the Tennessee Farm Bureau and is Countywide Chairperson for Agriculture in the Classroom, a committee of the Hamblen County Farm Bureau that promotes incorporating agricultural facts and understanding into the curriculum; and

WHEREAS, with the assistance of an Eagle Scout, she created an outdoor classroom at her school; this accomplishment helped them garner the title of National Youth Winners in 2000, which brought in \$750 worth of garden seed, plants, and tools for her students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Howell truly serves as an inspiration to her family, friends, peers, and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate enough to know her; and

WHEREAS, she epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Peggy Howell on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at Fairview-Marguerite Elementary School, commend her exceptional service to the youth of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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